

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Previously presented) An apparatus for playing back data having audio
2 information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark,
3 the apparatus comprising:

4 a reproduction processing circuit configured to produce the data;
5 a data store configured to receive a subset of the data;
6 a detecting circuit coupled to the data store and configured to process data
7 contained therein to produce a detection result, the detection result being based on the
8 watermark; and
9 a control circuit configured to selectively output the data based on the detection
10 result.

1 2. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a data
2 selection circuit configured to select a first subset of the data, the data selection circuit coupled to
3 deliver the first subset to the data store, wherein the detecting circuit processes the first subset.

1 3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the capacity of
2 the data store is equal to or greater than the minimum size of the first subset.

1 4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the detecting
2 circuit is further configured to produce a signal indicating the completion of processing of the
3 first subset, wherein the selection circuit selects, in response to the signal, a second subset of the
4 data, and wherein the second subset replaces the first subset.

1 5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the detecting
2 circuit is further configured to indicate that the first subset has been delivered to the data store,
3 and wherein the selection circuit selects, in response thereto, a second subset from the data for
4 delivery to the data store.

1 6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the data is an
2 ISO-MPEG 2 formatted data stream, and wherein the first subset is an I-picture.

1 7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further including a data bus coupled
2 only between the detection circuit and the control circuit, wherein the detection circuit produces
3 a signal representative of the detection result, the signal being sent to the control circuit via the
4 data bus.

1 8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces
2 a signal representative of the detection result, the detection circuit further configured to encode
3 the signal using a decryption key, the control circuit further configured to receive the encoded
4 signal and to decode the signal using the decryption key.

1 9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces
2 a signal representative of the detection result, wherein the detection circuit and the control circuit
3 are further configured to exchange authentication data with each other, and wherein the detection
4 circuit is further configured to deliver the signal to the control circuit when the detection circuit
5 makes a positive determination that the control circuit is permitted to receive the signal.

1 10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the detection circuit is further
2 configured to encode the signal using the authentication data, and the control circuit is further
3 configured to receive the encoded signal and to decode the signal using the authentication data.

1 11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detection circuit produces
2 a first signal when processing of data in the data store produces the detection result a first
3 predetermined number of times in succession, the control circuit selectively outputting the first
4 data in response to the signal.

1 12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the detection circuit,
2 subsequent to producing the first signal, produces a second signal when processing of data in the
3 data store produces a second detection result a second predetermined number of times in
4 succession, the control circuit selectively outputting the first data in response to the first and
5 second signals.

1 13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first data is ISO-MPEG 2
2 formatted.

1 14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store
2 receives at least some of the data at a data rate equal to a data rate at which the reproduction
3 processing circuit produces the data.

1 15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store is
2 further configured to output data contained therein at the same time it receives a subset of the
3 data.

1 16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the data store
2 receives a subset of the data at a first data rate equal to a data rate at which the reproduction
3 processing circuit produces the data,

4 wherein the detecting circuit is further configured to indicate a second data rate
5 and the data store is further configured to output the data contained therein at the second data
6 rate in response thereto.

1 17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the detecting circuit is further
2 configured to receive data contained in the data store at a third data rate and process the data to
3 produce a detection result at a fourth data rate, wherein the fourth data rate is equal to or greater
4 than the third data rate.

1 18. (Previously presented) An apparatus for playing back data in an
2 information recording medium, the data containing a watermark, the apparatus comprising:
3 a reproduction processing circuit configured to produce the data;
4 a data store configured to receive a subset of the data;
5 a detecting circuit coupled to the data store and configured to process data
6 contained therein to produce a detection result, the detection result being based on the
7 watermark; and
8 a control circuit configured to selectively output the first data based on the
9 detection result and the type of the information recording medium.

1 19. (Previously presented) A method for accessing data having audio
2 information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark,
3 the method comprising:
4 receiving the data from a data source;
5 storing the data in a data store;
6 producing a detection result by processing data in the data store, the detection
7 result based on the watermark;
8 selectively outputting the data based on the detection result.

1 20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein selectively outputting is
2 further based on the type of the data source.

1 21. (Previously presented) An apparatus for playing back data having audio
2 information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark,
3 the apparatus comprising:
4 first means for providing the data from a data source;
5 second means, coupled to the first means, for storing a subset of the first data;
6 third means for producing a detection result, including means for processing data
7 stored in the second means; and
8 fourth means, operatively coupled to the third means, for outputting the data
9 based on the detection result.

1 22-28. (Canceled)

1 29. (Currently amended) An apparatus for playing back data having audio
2 information, visual information, or audio-visual information, the data containing a watermark
3 and stored in an information storage medium, the apparatus comprising:
4 a reproduction processing circuit configured to reproduce the data including the
5 watermark;
6 a detecting circuit configured to detect the watermark;
7 a data selection circuit configured to select a subset of the data which is necessary
8 for the detection of the watermark;
9 a data store configured to store the subset;
10 a reproduction control circuit configured to ~~re~~control the reproduction of the
11 data, depending upon a result of the detection of the watermark by the detecting circuit,
12 wherein the data store is shared by the reproduction processing circuit and the
13 detecting circuit.

1 30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the watermark
2 represents copyright protection information on the data.

1 31. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the watermark
2 represents copyright protection information on the data.

1 32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the watermark
2 represents copyright protection information on the data.